are high-cost projects, allowing 100% FDI in airports would help in creation of new airports facilities. Creation of new airports facilities in the States like Orissa, etc. would, however, depend upon commercial viability of such projects.

Congestion in air traffic

1480. SHRI DHARAMPAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a huge increase in air traffic in recent months and it is becoming increasingly unmanageable for the staff and management of the airport authority which causes a huge risk of accidents too;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to improve the air traffic situation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The increase in total aircraft movements for the year 2004-05 is 11.9% over the total traffic handled in 2003-04. In the recent months (April - December) 2005-06, the air traffic (aircraft movements) has grown by 13.3% over the same period of 2004-05. However, Airports Authority of India (AAI) is managing the air traffic efficiently in accordance with the standard prescribed by International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

(c) Various steps taken by AAI to reduce congestion at major airports *inter-alia* include construction of new high speed exit taxiways at Delhi and Mumbai, parallel taxi track at Delhi so as to reduce runway occupancy time and additional parking stands at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai, procedures for simultaneous use of both runways at Delhi, cross runway operation at Mumbai, improved ATC procedures, implementation of Dedicated Clearance Delivery Position, ban on general aviation aircraft at Delhi and Mumbai during peak period, upgradation of ATC automation system at Delhi and Mumbai etc.

Special Purpose Vehicle for airports

1481. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering setting up a Special Purpose Vehicle to develop airports in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of the airports on the modernisation list?